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# Rewald says trustee, media ruined firm

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In an interview published in Hawaii Investor, jailed businessman Ronald Rewald said his company was in good financial shape before the media and federal bankruptcy court trustee Thomas Hayes destroyed it.

The monthly business publication, edited by William Wood, carries a lengthy interview with Rewald in its December issue.

During the interview, Rewald made a number of hitherto unreported statements about himself and his company, Bishop, Baldwin, Rewald, Dillingham and Wong.

He said that he tape-recorded meetings in his office and that he thinks the FBI, now conducting an investigation of him and his firm, has received "only four tapes."

When asked if he taped two meetings and one telephone conversation with the head of the Honolulu office of the FBI, Rewald responded: "No comment."

He gave the same answer repeatedly when asked about his reported relationship with the CIA.

But Rewald does describe Jack Kindschi, former CIA station chief in Honolulu, as a close friend who wrote most of the quarterly reports and brochures put out by Rewald's firm.

When asked how the company's name was chosen — the kamaaina companies and families of Bishop, Baldwin and Dillingham were not connected with Rewald's firm — Rewald told Wood: "Are you kidding?"

"We would never have picked a name like that. But we're in an area again that I can't discuss," Rewald said.

Rewald said that interim bankruptcy trustee Hayes, who took control of the firm in early July after Rewald attempted suicide, has been a source of the allegations of CIA involvement in the firm. Rewald said that has hurt the firm.

"We tried to stop him," Rewald said of Hayes, "but he was always out of control."

He went on to say: "We cautioned Hayes about this repeatedly, but he was bent on becoming a media star and the repercussions for Bishop, Baldwin, its associates and clients appeared to be secondary. He just wouldn't shut his mouth."

Rewald said that before attempting suicide July 29, he "first went to the Federal Building."

He refused to say why and declined comment when asked if it was to visit the CIA office there.

Rewald also is quoted in the interview as saying that his wife and five children have suffered considerably.

Family members are on the Mainland now and Rewald said that his three youngest children missed three weeks of school because Hayes wouldn't release their clothes.

Rewald said his wife, Nancy, is now working as a housekeeper and also as an aide in a nursing home.

"She has no car and walks two miles home from work at night in freezing temperatures," he said.

His two oldest children are also working, he said.

Rewald described himself as a religious man who spends much of his time in jail reading the Bible and writing.

He is charged with two counts of first-degree theft and could be free on bail if he could

raise \$20,000 in cash.

Rewald said he has heard from few of his friends after his troubles began in the summer, but he said entertainer Danny Kaleikini visited him at the Queen's Medical Center twice to read the Bible with him while he was recovering from his suicide attempt.

Rewald said news stories about him and his company unfairly precipitated last summer's events and he said subsequent stories have been inaccurate and unfair.